JEPH LOEB - JIM LEE - SCOTT WILLIAMS - ALEX SINCLAIR

BATMAN HUSH

ALL IN

13+ TEEN 163

LEGACY 928

JIM LEE '25

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I have fallen.

STOP ME IF YOU'VE HEARD THIS ONE BEFORE --

This all began when I made the decision to save **The Joker's life.**

--ACKK--

The people who I have **taught** and **mentored** turned against me.

-- BATUGGLLHH --

-- WE'RE -- GAK -- ON YOUR SIDE!

All of them manipulated by Hush.

Leaving me alone in the night.

Where I belong.

Something the Riddler said to me.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WE"?

YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS ONLY ABOUT YOU AND HUSH, BATSY?

"You have friends in low places."

HUSH BETRAYED US ALL.

PROMISES WERE MADE AND BROKEN.

EVERYONE IS INVOLVED.

WE KNOW WHERE HUSH IS -- LET'S GO NOW.

My enemy's enemies are my allies.

AMANDA WOO SQUARE

As smart as Nygma may be, how could he know they would all be down here?

THE ONES YOU TRUSTED NO LONGER TRUST YOU AND THE ONES YOU NEVER TRUSTED ARE THE ONLY ONES YOU --

-- WELL, YOU GET IT NOW, DON'T YOU?

ALL YOUR BOY BLUNDERS AND GIRL WHATEVERS WILL BE COMING FOR US -- INCLUDING YOU.

OH, I ALMOST FORGOT MY PUNCHLINE!

HA HE HA HEE HA HA

WE'RE THE ALL-NEW, ALL-DIFFERENT BAT-FAMILY!

ADAMS ST

When I started out to protect this city, I was not prepared.

WHAT NOW?

I got beaten. Pummeled. **Defeated.**

I sat alone in my father's study. Bleeding. Broken. Uncertain.

WE GO AFTER HIM.

HE COULD BE HURT -- *OR WORSE* -- DOWN THERE.

AND WHOSE *FAULT* WOULD THAT BE?

WE COULD START WITH *JASON*.

END WITH *HUSH*.

WRONG. LOOK AT ALL OF YOU. SO EAGER TO TAKE HIM ON.

THE MAN WHO IS EITHER LIKE A FATHER TO YOU OR *IS* YOUR FATHER.

WHATEVER YOUR PLAN WAS, ***YOU KNEW HIM***.

YOU KNEW HE'D NEVER BE CORNERED.

THAT HE'D ***NEVER*** --

-- I DON'T NEED *ANYONE* DEFENDING HIM.

PARTICULARLY ***YOU***.

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

BECAUSE I WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM, YOU DON'T THINK I CAN SEE THE ***TRUTH***?

I had trained but it was not enough. I needed something more. ***I needed them to fear me.***

ANYBODY ELSE WHO WANTS TO CALL IT QUITS, ***NOW'S YOUR CHANCE***.

WE'RE GOING AFTER HIM.

PTOOM

Suddenly, a winged creature crashed through the window. ***Horrifying.***

I had my answer.

I would become a bat.

Jeph LOEB writes

Jim LEE pencils

Scott WILLIAMS inks

Chapter Six DRAW

Alex SINCLAIR colors

Richard STARKINGS w/ COMICRAFT's Tyler SMITH letters

James REID assist. ed.

Jessica BERBEY assoc. ed.

Rob LEVIN edits

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER

SLIC

SLIC

BRUCE!

Do they fear me anymore?

BEFORE THIS GETS OUT OF HAND AGAIN --

They should.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU -- UGHHH!

THIS IS GOING TO HURT YOU A LOT MORE THAN --

KRAK

SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.

DON'T. HE'S TOO STRONG. AND THAT'S NOT HIS FIGHTING STYLE --

-- LIKE I CARE!

NO, I MEAN, THAT'S NOT HIM.

NYGMA...?

QUESTION: WHEN IS A BATMAN NOT A BATMAN?

THIS MIGHT STING --

-- WHAT?!

OWW -- YOU COULD'VE ASKED!

BATMAN USED THIS TO FRY YOU OUT.

RESET

ONE SHOT.

ACTIVATE

ZZZZ

PAK

ANSWER: CLAYFACE.

WE'VE BEEN PLAYED...

It was **my** idea to send them **Clayface.**

Stopping **Nightwing** and the others was the first priority --

-- all the while thinning **this** pack of wolves.

52

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE HUSH IS?

WE DON'T. BUT WE KNOW HE WILL COME FOR YOU AND ***THEN*** WE'LL KNOW.

BAIT.

WOULD YOU HAVE HANDLED IT OTHERWISE?

"A FRIEND TO ALL IS A FRIEND TO NONE."

BANE! NO! HE WANTS YOU TO COME TO HIM!

Audio Block: ON.

CLK

CLICK

They do not understand.

Hush will kill them all to get to me.

TOMMY. I WILL SURRENDER.

URGGL

Like my saving The Joker, I cannot have **their** blood on **my** hands.

Despite the promise to rid Gotham of the evil that took my parents.

IT IS **ME** YOU WANT. LET THE OTHERS GO.

Audio Block: OFF.

THIS IS A JOKE, RIGHT? SOME KIND OF BAT-TRICK!

CAREFUL. WE'RE PLAYING BY ***THE TOUCH-MOVE RULE***.

ONCE YOU START TO MOVE TOWARD ME THERE'S NO TURNING BACK.

Why the sudden interest in **chess?**

That was never his game. **Unless...**

SILENCE. END THEM.

DOWN

CLK

Hush has overplayed his hand.

He is not in this by himself.

Chess.

I understand now the hold he has over Jason.

The piece that I have been missing ever since Jason... **returned.**

JASON. ***THIS*** IS YOUR CHANCE.

None of it was by coincidence.

It is all too well orchestrated, even for **Hush.**

YOU ***HAVE*** TO TRUST ME. THEY WILL ***SACRIFICE*** YOU AS PART OF THE GAME.

They see Jason merely as a pawn.

YOU'RE ***WRONG***. ABOUT ***EVERYTHING!***

I see the boy who wanted to be a hero.

His past. His present. **His future.**

*Despite all the guilt and shame I carry because I could not save **his life** --*

*-- **I will always love him.***

YOU CAN BE THE HERO.

Now, with the grand entrance of **the train** down here --

"LIFE IS ONLY MEANINGFUL WHEN WE STRIVE FOR A GOAL."

MINE WAS TO SHOW YOU WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO BE *ME*, BRUCE.

-- The stage is set.

I HAD *EVERYTHING* BUT WAS STILL --

The pieces are on the board.

-- ALONE? IS THAT THE GAME?

MAKING *ME* FEEL WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE *THOMAS ELLIOT* --

Show yourself.

-- WHEN ALL YOU EVER WANTED WAS *TO BE BRUCE WAYNE.*

SHOW YOURSELF.

YOU THINK YOU KNOW MY EVERY NEXT MOVE. WELL...

SLAKT

...I'M GOING TO SLICE OUT YOUR HEART --

URGHH

-- JUST LIKE I DID YOUR BELOVED CATWOMAN.

YOU FOOL!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

STOP! STOP -- BOTH OF YOU!

BLAM

CLK

YOU KILLED HIM!

UBU! LITTLE HELP HERE!

YES, MISS TALIA.

GOOD-BYE, SADIQ.

DGGLL

JASON! STOP FIRING! THINK OF ALL WE'VE DONE FOR YOU!

UBU, GET BATMAN TO SAFETY.

YOU GO TO HELL!

YOU TOOK EVERYTHING AWAY FROM ME...

Later.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.

MISS TALIA. YOUR FATHER WOULD --

MY FATHER IS DEAD.

BRING *BATMAN* TO ME.

NOW.

CAREFUL. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS CRITICAL.

AGAIN, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT --

-- YOUR FATHER WOULD NOT WANT HIM IN ANY LAZARUS PIT.

YOU FORGET YOUR PLACE.

OUT.

ALL OF YOU.

COME BACK TO US.

RISE.

LIVE AGAIN, DETECTIVE.

BELOVED...?

WHAT --

-- WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU...?

END OF PART ONE

TO BE CONTINUED IN

HUSH²

BATMAN #163 VARIANT COVERS

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR - BATMAN GATEFOLD

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR - HUSH GATEFOLD

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

JORGE JIMÉNEZ & TOMEU MOREY

GABRIELE DELL'OTTO

GARY FRANK & BRAD ANDERSON

JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR - FOIL

1:25 - MIKEL JANÍN

1:50 - MICO SUAYAN

1:100 - JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR

WHAT THE HELL?!

JUBAL?

HELLO?

NO NO NO NO.

GUYS! SOME MANIAC'S--

OH GOD.

MR... SLADE...

ABSOLUTE GREEN ARROW #1 PREVIEW

WRITER PORNSAK PICHETSHOTE
ART RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE
COLORS MARCELO MAIOLO
LETTERS JEFF POWELL

...STAY... BA--

>AK<

>A<

>:<

HEY--***HEY!*** WHOEVER YOU ARE, I'LL--I'LL PAY YOU ***WHATEVER,*** OKAY?

JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT!

AN *EXAMPLE.*

DETAILS ARE STILL UNRELEASED CONCERNING THE DEATH OF BILLIONAIRE ***JUBAL SLADE--****A TECH ENTREPRENEUR BEST KNOWN AS THE* ***COFOUNDER*** *OF THE ELECTRONIC TRADING PLATFORM* ***GREENARROWS TRADING...***

TO BE CONTINUED IN ABSOLUTE GREEN ARROW **#1** **ON SALE IN MAY!**

THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF KRYPTON: JOR-EL!

SUPERMAN
FATHER OF TOMORROW

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WRITTEN BY
KENNY PORTER

ART BY
DANNY EARLS

6-ISSUE
MINISERIES

MAY

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON ABSOLUTE GREEN ARROW

ALL IN

CONVERSATION WITH PORNSAK PICHETSHOTE AND RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

A new target emerges in the Absolute Universe! In *Absolute Green Arrow*, writer Pornsak Pichetshote and artist Rafael Albuquerque reimagine the Emerald Archer through a darker, more haunting lens. Blending elements of horror and mystery, this bold new take follows a killer targeting the ultra-wealthy, leaving behind a signature that points to something far more unsettling beneath the surface.

A DEADLY MYSTERY

PORNSAK PICHETSHOTE: *Absolute Green Arrow* follows a serial killer stalking corrupt billionaires, with the only clue to his identity being the green arrows protruding from the bodies of his victims—a sign to some very corrupt, very rich people that you can't get away with killing Oliver Queen.

PICHETSHOTE: It's told from the perspective of an executive protection specialist named Dinah Lance, who's been tasked with uncovering the identity of this mass serial killer. And all her suspects DC fans will recognize, because they are all archers from the DC Universe.

DESIGNING FEAR: A NEW VISION FOR GREEN ARROW

RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE: It took us a while to get to the final look of Green Arrow and Dinah. But especially with Green Arrow, there is a completely different concept. We wanted something that was about terrifying the targets, the enemies of our main character. We ended up finding inspiration in demons.

ALBUQUERQUE: I feel that it's terrifying in a way that would play very well in a horror movie, just as it does in a horror comic book. And it's also great for me to draw, from an artist's perspective. It lets me play with scenes and try different compositions with the mask and the shadows.

PICHETSHOTE: Rafa just nailed the design. It's all anyone can talk about, just how cool Absolute Green Arrow looks.

He wants to terrify his targets as much as possible, so his costume is designed to do exactly that. Rafa pulled from all these different visual influences, things that would feel unsettling and intimidating, and brought them together in a really striking way.

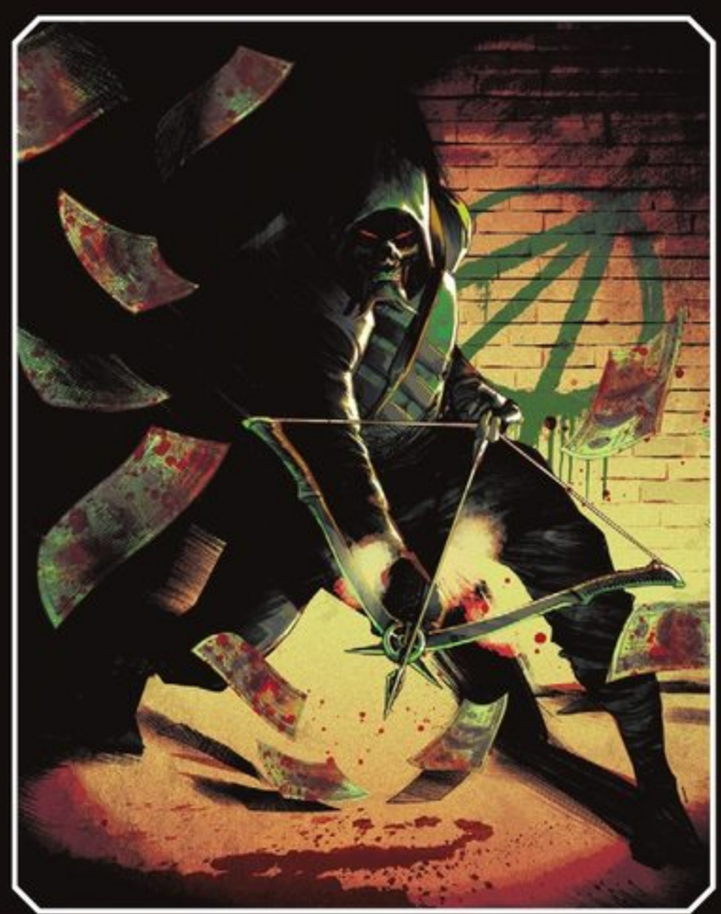
A FRESH ENTRY POINT FOR NEW AND RETURNING READERS

ALBUQUERQUE: I would say it's pretty much a new character, if you think about it. But it's also funny because it works for both longtime fans and new readers. We're reshaping the whole lore while still respecting it. It's like making a new meal with new flavors using the same ingredients.

ALBUQUERQUE: For readers who don't know anything about Oliver Queen or Green Arrow, I think it's going to be a really interesting horror story, and you'll probably find a new favorite character in there.

PICHETSHOTE: We're approaching this like a creator-owned book. From the beginning, we talked about making something you don't need to have read anything else to jump into.

You've got a strong mystery and a horror-thriller to follow. But if you know the lore well, you'll find clues, and red herrings, when it comes to the mystery of who Absolute Green Arrow is. So whether you're a dyed-in-the-wool Green Arrow fan or completely new, the goal is for you to have a fun, mysterious experience. It might just hit differently depending on your perspective, and that's part of the fun of working in the Absolute Universe.



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ABSOLUTE GREEN ARROW
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